

CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method for processing an incoming package at an edge node, comprising:

determining if enough space exists at a storage device of the edge node to decompress the package;

if enough space does not exist, removing one or more previously stored files from the storage device;

if enough space exists, either after the determining or after the removing of one or more previously stored files, extracting a package information listing from the package;

analyzing the extracted package information listing to discover if the edge node is an intended recipient of the package;

if the edge node is an intended recipient, ascertaining if the package is a content package or a command package;

if the package is a command package, executing at least one command included in the package; and

if the package is a content package, extracting the files and storing the files contained in the package.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where the removal of one or more previously stored files comprises:

Identifying all previously stored files in the edge node's storage space that are expired or marked for forced deletion; and

Removing one or more identified files.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, where the removal of one or more previously stored files comprises deleting all previously stored files in the edge node's storage space marked for deletion.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, where removing one or more previously stored files further comprises:

Ascertaining whether the edge node has enough storage space to decompress the package and if not then deleting one or more previously stored files in the edge node's storage space that are expired: and

Iteratively performing the ascertaining and deleting of one or more previously stored files that are expired until the edge node has enough storage space to decompress the package or no previously stored files that are expired exist.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where the package is a command package and is transmitted through a back channel.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, where a message describing the status of the edge node is transmitted to a Network Operations Center (NOC) through a back channel connected the edge node and the NOC.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where the extracting of the files further includes entering information from the extracted files in a database.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, where the package is a command package that includes a command to request for the edge node to upload its logs to a Network Operations Center (NOC).

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where the package is a command package that includes a command to request for the edge node to update its operational software.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, where the package is a command package that includes a deletion command and is sent from ~~the~~ a Network Operations Center (NOC).

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising verifying successful receipt of the package prior to extracting the package information listing.

12. (Currently Amended) A system for processing a an incoming package at an edge node, comprising:

a storage device containing one or more previously stored files;

a database containing information related to the one or more previously stored files in the storage device; and

a data manager linked to the storage device and the database;

where the data manager determines if enough space exists at the storage device to decompress the package;

where, if there is not enough space, the data manager retrieves information related to the one or more previously stored files from the database and deletes one or more previously stored files based on the retrieved information;

where, if there is enough space, the data manager extracts a package information listing from the package and analyzes the extracted package information listing to determine if the edge node is an intended recipient of the package;

where, if the edge node is an intended recipient, the data manager ascertains if the package is a content package or a command package;

where if the package is a command package, the data manager executes at least one command included in the package; and

where if the package is a content package, the data manager extracts the files contained in the package and stores the extracted files at the storage device.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, where the storage device includes a shared storage device.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, where the storage device includes one or more computer servers.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, where the information contained in the database related to the one or more previously stored files includes, for each

previously stored file, an indication of whether the respective previously stored file is marked for forced deletion and an indication of whether the respective previously stored file is expired.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 15, where the data manager deletes one or more previously stored files by removing each previously stored file having an indication that it is marked for forced deletion, checking if there is enough space to decompress the package, and if there is not, removing a previously stored file having an indication that it is expired until there is enough space to decompress the package or no previously stored file exists having an indication that it is expired.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15, further comprising a back channel connecting the edge node and a Network Operations Center (NOC).

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, where the NOC transmits a command package to the edge node through the back channel.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, where the edge node transmits a message describing its status to the NOC through the back channel.